

The Department of Community Planning & Development
City Hall, Lynchburg, VA 24504 434-455-3900

To: Planning Commission

From: Planning Division

Date: December 1, 2004

Re: STREET RENAMING REQUEST – “BEVERLY HILLS CIRCLE” INSTEAD OF “WOODLAND CIRCLE”

SUMMARY In the interest of eliminating obvious areas of conflict from current street names, minimizing the risk to the safety of the general public and assuring that any proposed change is designed to affect the fewest possible number of property owners, the Department of Community Planning and Development has proposed to rename “Woodland Circle,” to “Beverly Hills Circle.”

The Planning Division recommends approval of the proposed street name change.

REQUIRED ACTION

Consideration of the Planning Division’s recommendation.

BACKGROUND

The City of Lynchburg Department of Community Planning and Development, represented by W. Thomas Martin, City Planner, is requesting to change the name of an existing public street from “Woodland Circle” to “Beverly Hills Circle.” “Woodland Circle” extends from the south side of Pearson Drive in a circle to Pearson Drive and also extends in a southerly direction toward Parkview Drive. This street was selected for renaming because (1) historically it has been known by property owners, the Post Office and Emergency Response agencies as “Beverly Hills Circle;” and (2) the street has a duplicate street name in another area of the City. Duplicate street names must be eliminated to minimize the risk to the safety of the general public by reducing areas of confusion and the likelihood of an error in an emergency response.

The City’s Official Map identifies the subject street as “Woodland Circle.” However, property owners along this street have “Beverly Hills Circle” addresses; the City’s street signs are identified as “Beverly Hills Circle” and the Emergency Response agencies know this street as “Beverly Hills Circle.”

The existing street numbers for this section of street do not duplicate those on the north side of the existing Beverly Hills Circle but run consecutively from the 300 block on the north side of Pearson Drive and from the 100-200 blocks on the south (Woodland Circle) side. The name, “Woodland Circle” also has a duplicate street name in the southern part of the city off Lakeview Drive which is off McVeigh Road and off Leesville Road.

Section 35.105 of the Lynchburg City Code states that “...all streets dedicated or private...may be assigned a name provided that a name assignment has been requested by the property owners on said street, and provided further that the Planning Commission deems the petitioned street of sufficient significance to warrant naming.”

Section 35.111 of the Lynchburg City Code states that “proposed street names will be reviewed by the City Technical Review Committee, Planning Commission and City Council, with the final decision resting with Council.”

TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Traffic Engineer and the Fire Marshal, Members of the Technical Review Committee (TRC), reviewed the request and had no concerns with the proposed street renaming. The Emergency Communications Administrator and the Lynchburg Post Office Customer Services Manager also found that the proposed street renaming does not conflict with any existing street names.

PLANNING DIVISION RECOMMENDED MOTION

Based on the proceeding information and analysis, the Planning Division recommends the following:

That the Planning Commission recommends to City Council approval of the proposed street renaming of “Woodland Circle” to “Beverly Hills Circle” for the street that extends from the south side of Pearson Drive in a circle to Pearson Drive and also extends in a southerly direction toward Parkview Drive.

This matter is respectfully offered for your consideration.

William T. Martin, AICP
City Planner

pc: Mr. L. Kimball Payne, III, City Manager
Mr. Walter C. Erwin, City Attorney
Ms. Rachel O. Flynn, Director of Community Planning & Development
Mr. Bruce A. McNabb, Director of Public Works
Mr. R. Douglas Dejarnette, Fire Marshal
Mr. J. Lee Newland, Director of Engineering
Mr. Gerry L. Harter, Traffic Engineer
Mr. Robert Drane, Building Commissioner
Mr. Arthur L. Tolley, Zoning Official
Mr. Robert S. Fowler, Zoning Official